

REMARKS

7 This is in response to the Office Action mailed March 26, 2003, in which claims 1-10 were rejected. With this amendment, claim 1 has been amended and claims 11-15 have been added. All pending claims are presented for reconsideration and allowance.

In Section 1 of the Office Action, the Examiner noted that an Information Disclosure Statement was filed on March 26, 2001, but indicated that the PTO-1449 form for the statement could not be found. With this Amendment, Applicant is resubmitting the Information Disclosure Statement that was filed on March 26, 2001. Consideration of each of the references cited therein is respectfully requested.

In Section 4 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-10 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Ueno et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,166,875). Applicant respectfully believes that the claims are allowable even in view of the cited reference.

The RRO component described in Ueno et al. is an eccentric component R0, which is a rotational frequency component produced by the rotation of the magnetic disc in response to the eccentricity between the servo data and the axis of rotation of the disc. [Col. 5, lines 38-42.] Rather than minimizing, eliminating or canceling the eccentric component R0, the eccentric component R0 is added to the control current that is used to control the position of head 13 relative to the disc 14. [Col. 5, line 56-58.] As a result, "the magnetic head 13 is controlled to follow the eccentric component R0." [Column 5, lines 58-59, emphasis added.] Therefore, Ueno et al. disclose a disc drive that controls the position of the head to follow real data tracks, which are defined by the servo tracks or data and are eccentric to the axis of rotation of the disc.

Claim 6 features "injecting a compensation signal into the servo control loop to cancel the RRO and cause the head to follow a virtual track that is concentric to the axis of rotation of the disc." As explained above, such a step is not disclosed by Ueno et al. Accordingly, Applicant submits that independent claim 6 is allowable and requests that the rejection be withdrawn. Additionally, Applicant submits that claims 7-9 are allowable since they depend from allowable base claim 6, and request that the rejections be withdrawn.

Claim 11 is added by this Amendment and features controlling a position of the transducer to follow virtual tracks that are substantially concentric to the axis of rotation of the disc and are eccentric to the real tracks. The references fail to disclose such a method. Instead, the references, such as Ueno et al., only disclose following the real data tracks that are defined by the servo data. Accordingly, Applicant submits that independent claim 11 is allowable. Additionally, Applicant believes that newly added claims 12-14 are allowable since they depend from allowable base claim 11.

New claim 15 is directed to a disc drive or spin-stand that includes "an element having an output lead and a control signal provided on the output lead, the control signal controlling a position of the transducer such that the transducer follows virtual tracks that are eccentric to the data tracks and substantially concentric to the axis of rotation of the disc." As explained above, no such track following is taught or suggested by the cited references. Accordingly, Applicant submits that claim 15 is allowable.

In view of the above comments and remarks, it is believed that the present application is in condition for allowance. Consideration and favorable action is respectfully requested.

The Director is authorized to charge any fee deficiency required by this paper or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23-1123.

Respectfully submitted,

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MARKED-UP VERSION OF REPLACEMENT CLAIMS

Claims 1-5 and 10 have been cancelled.

Claims 11-15 are added by amendment.



Receipt is hereby acknowledged by the Assistant Commissioner of
Patents & Trademarks of the following item in the matter of:

Applicant : Brian Pollock et al.
Serial No./Patent No.: 09/733,405
Filed/Issued : December 8, 2000
Title/Mark : VIRTUAL TRACKS FOR REPEATABLE RUNOUT
COMPENSATION

1. Information Disclosure Statement (in duplicate)
2. PTO Form 1449 with copies of all cited references
3. Preliminary Amendment



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